

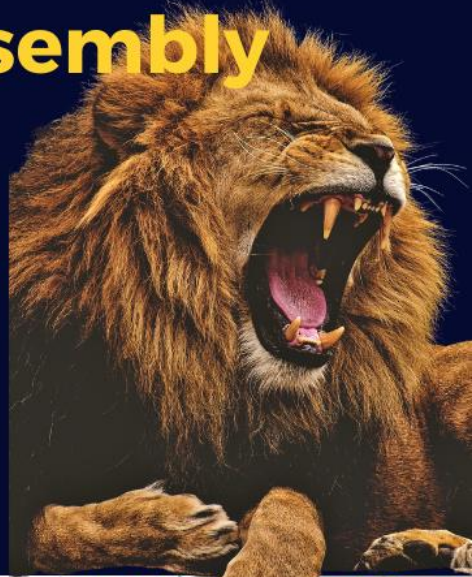
PARTICIPATE
RESPECT
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EMPATHY



Wednesday 11 December

Dunsandel School **End of Year Assembly**

Start Time - 6:30pm.
Venue - Ellesmere College
All welcome.

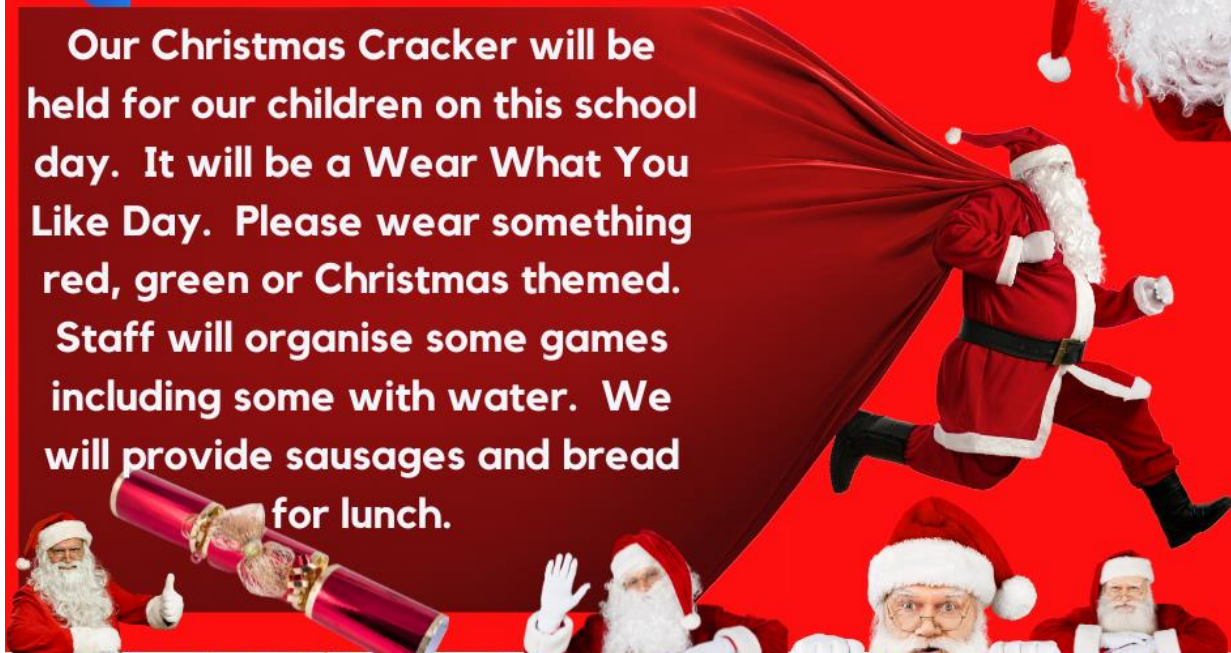


Children will need to be at the Ellesmere College Hall by 6:15pm in correct, clean uniform including white or navy socks



CHRISTMAS CRACKER **THURSDAY 12 DECEMBER**

Our Christmas Cracker will be held for our children on this school day. It will be a Wear What You Like Day. Please wear something red, green or Christmas themed. Staff will organise some games including some with water. We will provide sausages and bread for lunch.





Dunsandel School News and Notes

The Weekly Family Newsletter



PRIDE

PRIDE IN OURSELVES,
OUR LEARNING AND
OUR COMMUNITY.

Monday 9 December 2024

News and Notes from the Principal

Nau mai, haere mai.

Ngā mihi nui kia koutou katoa,

It's the final week of the 2024 school year for Dunsandel School. Below is all the information about what is happening this week. As we finish the school year and this is the final school newsletter for 2024, I would like to wish everyone associated with Dunsandel School a very Merry Christmas and a safe enjoyable school holiday break!! I look forward to seeing you at our final Assembly on Wednesday evening.

THIS WEEK

Monday 9 December

Written Reports sent home to Parents and Caregivers.

Today your eldest child will come home with an envelope that has the end of year report for the children in your family. Within this report are general comments based around our PRIDE vision, a report on writing, reading and mathematics, comments on other curriculum areas covered and a self-assessment from your child. Each child achieves and makes progress at different stages of their learning. Some are learning above their expected level. Our goal is to teach individual students at their level, to help them reach their potential, extend or assist them so they are successful, make progress and are happy to come to school. This report will also include your child's 2025 class. Our reports go through a vigorous editing/proof reading process; however, mistakes still sometimes occur – should you find a mistake or typo in your child's report please advise their teacher so this can be corrected.

Thank you – I would like to say a special thank you to the Jones' whānau for donating winter tournament balls for our tamariki. WE are very thankful for your generosity and kindness. Also special thanks to the Selwyn Sports Centre for donating 30 different types of new basketballs, soccer balls and rugby balls. These new balls have been a really big hit in the playground.

Thank you to everyone who donated a non perishable item and placed it under our Christmas Tree. We will be giving it all to Ellesmere Food Bank to help those in need over the Christmas period. Your support is much appreciated.



Wednesday 11 December

End of year Assembly at Ellesmere College. This will start at 6:30pm. Children will need to be at the Ellesmere College Hall by 6:15pm in correct, clean uniform including white or navy socks. At this assembly, all of our children will perform on stage and there will be a variety of presentations. This is a formal occasion so please do not encourage children to wear face paint, stick on tattoos or spray coloured dye in their hair. We look forward to all our families coming along and sharing this occasion with us.

Thursday 12 December

Christmas Cracker; Our Christmas Cracker will be held for our children on this school day – it will be a Wear What You Like Day – Please wear something red, green or Christmas themed. Staff will organize some games including some with water.

Safety Vests - All safety bus vests will be recalled this Thursday. This means the children will be travelling home on Thursday and Friday without their safety vest. If your child walks some distance from their stop or walks to school or bikes to school, please consider using an alternative safety vest or bringing your child to school for those days. Could you please check and return all spare bus vests if you have any as we do have a number of our spare ones missing.

School stationery for 2025 – Your child’s stationery list is ready to purchase on the Office Max web page. All information is attached to this newsletter.

School accounts – If you have an outstanding account, please see the office.

School uniform – can be purchase over the holiday break with our supplier Mainland Uniform. You can search them up online or visit their shop at 511 Wairakei Road, Ilam.

Our school office will be open on Monday 27 January – School starts back on Tuesday 28 January for all our Tamariki.

Friday 13 December

Last day of school 1200pm close (buses will run at this time)

Enjoy the last school week of 2024

Merry Christmas and Happy 2025

Ngā mihi



Dave Robinson; Principal/Tumuaki/Punong-guro

Calendar

[Click here](#) for our School Calendar on Google. School Calendar can be accessed on our School App.

Buying Uniform

Go to the **Mainland Uniforms** website - personalised page for our school: -

<https://www.mainlanduniforms.nz/241-dunsandel-school>

This link is also on the home page of our school website.

Dunsandel School

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Principal

Dave Robinson

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Deputy Principal

Tracey Harrold

tracey@dunsandel.school.nz

School Secretary

Felicity Pluck

felicity@dunsandel.school.nz

Board Presiding Member

Mick O'Connor

PTA President

Katharine Sheppard

School Account Number

02-0860-0049250-000

PTA News

Kia ora everyone!

Last PTA blurb of the year from me, hard to believe we are here already. Thanks so much to those of you baking and volunteering for the catering job tomorrow - one more pair of hands from 11-2 at the community centre would definitely be a help (and might make it shorter), if anyone is available. If you can help, please flick Shae a text on 027 335 5020. Those of you who are baking, please have your baking at school by 9am tomorrow so it can be plated and whipped down early for their morning tea.

Before I get into my years' worth of thank you, a random number generator helped me draw the names for prizes out of the pool of calf donors, and congratulations are due to the following people:

Hayley Anderson - you guys have won the portable electric fence unit kindly donated by TruTest Datamars. Claire Gillespie and Liz Des Landes - you've each won a Lone Star voucher kindly donated by Ashgrove Farm. Please either shoot me a FB message or text me on 027 307 8345 to arrange pick up of your prizes.

And now for the thank you - we've had a very busy year this year, it feels like, and are super fortunate to have many people to thank. First, thanks to my committee/office bearer's/meeting attenders - you all make PTA run like a well-oiled machine and the future is looking bright - always lots of positive energy and a can-do attitude, which is pretty crucial for any fundraising committee! Thanks also to the teachers and staff at school - especially Miss Harrold this year as the staff rep at our PTA meetings - you all make Dunsandel School such a neat place to be, and it's so invaluable having a teacher/DP voice at the meetings. Thank you to all of the local (and not local) businesses who have supported our fundraising through the year, whether it be with a prize or sponsorship or a team entry to our annual quiz night, a calf donation, or asking us to cater a function for them. Thank you to all of you parents/grandparents/friends/teachers/staff for your support of PTA through our many fundraisers this year - food fundraiser, lily bulbs, seeds, baking and helping at catering events, baking and buying cakes for cake auction on country day, entering teams and helping out/tending bar at quiz night, and more. Every little bit helps us to spread that load, and to be able keep making donations to school at the level at which we have become accustomed - the "extras" that we fund feel like they've been funded long and consistently enough now that they're part of the furniture - and I'm so grateful that we are able to help provide experiences/subsidise the cost of some experiences so that they are accessible to all children across every year level at school.

I will no doubt have forgotten a thank you somewhere in there, so my sincere apologies if I have. I hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable break over the holidays, and I feel like the 2025 school year will be upon us before we know it. We have the AGM pencilled in already for 7pm on Thursday the 13th of February, so put that in the diary now before you forget and it sneaks up on you, and we'd love to see you there - PTA is a wonderful way to meet other school parents (especially those outside your child's year group etc), and we are a welcoming bunch. 2025 will be the last year for a few of us (with youngest child starting year 6) so some new faces would be a fantastic start to what I'm sure will be a great year. Chat to any of us if you are curious and want to know more before coming along, or email us on ptadunsandel@gmail.com.

Thanks everyone for another fantastic year - now time for a well-deserved break from routine for all of us!! Yay the holidays, if only we could slow time down!

Signing off for 2024 - over and out!

Katharine Sheppard

PTA President 2024

Community New

Community Dental Service over the Christmas Break

The Community Dental Service will be closed for the upcoming 2024-25 Christmas & New Year period:

Closed from: Tuesday 24th December 2024

Reopen: Monday 6th January 2025

Four of our community dental clinics will be open during the January School Holiday period:

Burnside (96a Memorial Avenue)

Hillmorton (80-82 Sylvan Street)

Aranui (240 Breezes Road)

Timaru (18 Woolcombe Street)

COMMUNITY
dental service



Tips for Healthy Teeth

- Brush twice a day with fluoride toothpaste
- Choose healthy snacks,
- Choose water or milk first,
- Have regular dental check-ups

Health New Zealand
Te Whatu Ora

If your child is experiencing any dental pain/discomfort, you can call us on **0800 846 983** and/or email: comm dental@cdhb.health.nz and one of our clinicians will contact you.

OfficeMax
MySCHOOL

Order their Back to School stationery now and **beat the rush!**

Class lists are ready to view at myschool.co.nz



Get back to school stationery ready!

We know getting ready for the first day back at school can be a challenge for parents and kids. That's why we've teamed up with OfficeMax to make your back to school shop super easy. And if you order in December, you'll go in the draw to WIN 1 of 5 \$1000 cash prizes*.

Your child's class list is already loaded. Just go to myschool.co.nz. Simply add your details, check that you want everything on the list, then click and confirm - and OfficeMax will get your delivery underway.

Order in December and choose to receive your order straight away or in January.

We encourage you to order early to ensure your child has all their stationery requirements ready to go in plenty of time for the start of Term 1.

So go ahead and beat the back to school rush, order today and give them the best start possible.

OfficeMax makes it easy to get back to school ready with these great benefits.

- **Free delivery** on orders over \$70*
- **Pay now or in easy instalments** - internet banking, credit card, debit card or pay in 4 interest free payments over 6 weeks with Zip#
- **School Rewards** - when you shop on myschool.co.nz we earn rewards* that can be used to purchase extra resources for school
- **Beat the back to school rush** - avoid queues and busy malls by shopping online from the safety and comfort of your home
- **WINZ quotes** - available by contacting 0800 724 440 or via email enquiry@myschool.co.nz

We look forward to your child having a successful start to the new school year!

Have a safe and restful holiday.

DUNSANDEL SCHOOL BOARD NEWS AND NOTES

DECEMBER 2024



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EMPATHY

Presiding Member Comment

The Dunsandel School Board meet on Tuesday 3rd December to discuss the following:

- 2024 Dunsandel School Strategic Plan
- School end of year report, the Board is comfortable with the level of achievement and how the school in being run
- Covered off the school's financial budget and revived the draft budget for 2025
- Reviewed staffing levels for 2025, the board believes the school is well placed to deliver a high level of education to our students
- Dave talked through his sabbatical report, a strong emphasis on teacher wellbeing was highlighted in his work. Including an ongoing conversation with what is next around staff wellbeing, linking this to be inline with our student wellbeing strategy and strategic plan
- The board supports the schools move to a New Entrant cohort entry model, the next step will involve consultation with guardians and community

To the Year 6 leavers, thank you for your leadership over the past year. I know you will carry the PRIDE values onto your next school. Goodbye to the families who will be leaving the school PRIDE, many of you have been involved in the school for a long time and I would like to thank you for your support.


Thank you to all of our school teachers and staff for another action-packed year. Our school staff go over and above every single day for our pupils. This does not go unnoticed; the school would not be what it is without your dedication. All the best to Kate McCloy as she takes maternity leave and a special thank you to Jo Blackler and Bronwyn Shalfoon for their help with specialist teaching. We wish them well in their new roles at Burnham School and West Rolleston School respectively.




To my fellow Board members, thank you for your time and assurance in making the best decision for the good of Dunsandel School. I wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas, keep safe and I look forward to reconnecting with you next year.

Many thanks,

Mick O'Connor; Dunsandel School Board Presiding Member.

DUNSANDEL SCHOOL 2024-2025

Vision	PRIDE in Ourselves, Our Learning and Our Community.			
Values				
Strategic Goals	Optimise programmes and practices across the school that emphasises student and staff well-being by the end of 2025. <small>HELP Priority # 1</small>	Advance our Teaching and Learning Strategies for continued growth of our School Community. <small>HELP Priorities # 1, 4, 5 and 6</small>	Enhance our partnerships across the school and our community, based on our school values and creating new connections. <small>HELP Priority # 2</small>	
Strategic Initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess and review our Wellbeing Education at Dunsandel School programmes and processes. Develop a culture of Hauora and Wellbeing across our staff. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To build the capacity of staff through dedicated professional learning and development opportunities. Review, revise and continue to develop the Dunsandel School Curriculum by the end of 2025 including addressing the Curriculum Refresh. Develop ways in which we give positive affect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi by the end of 2024. Digital tools are used in a purposeful way to improve engagement and innovation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue with effective engagement in our partnership with Ngā Mātāpuna o te Waihora Kāhui Ako. Opportunities are made to connect with our wider school community. 	
Success	Our students and staff feel confident in themselves and positive about school.	All teaching and learning will be targeted and responsive to student, staff and school needs.	All groups feel a connectedness to our school and our values.	

PARTICIPATE

For our school Participate means **JOIN IN.**



RESPECT

For our school Respect means **TREAT OTHERS LIKE YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE TREATED.**



INITIATIVE

For our school Initiative means **THINK FOR YOURSELF.**



DETERMINATION

For our school Determination means **TRY HARD AND DON'T GIVE UP.**



EMPATHY

For our school Empathy means **THINK OF OTHERS.**



DUNSANDEL SCHOOL STRATEGIC PLAN REPORT TERM 4 2024



Strategic Goal 1

Optimise programmes and practices across the school that emphasises student and staff well-being by the end of 2025.

Term 4

- We have decided to continue with the Komodo Wellbeing platform in 2025 with some tweaks including trying to include all our junior children. Data in this report shows 25 requested check ins over the past school year and a consistent Wellbeing score (88-90%) school wide.
- Year 5 and 6 students completed the NZCER Wellbeing at School survey in Term 3. This data is shared with the Kāhui Ako. Below is a summary of the 2024 Dunsandel School data.
- We had the EC Wellbeing team at school for a Wellbeing Afternoon of activities that were run by the students on 11.11.24
- Staff have completed our annual Kāhui Ako Staff survey for 2024 on Staff Wellbeing. Kāhui AST will analyse the data from this survey.
- The Kāhui Ako WSTs ran a staff social events at the Leeston Bowls club on 8.11.23.
- DR Sabbatical report on Staff Wellbeing presented at this meeting.

2024 Summary

Key Successes

- Komodo platform identifying students that may need some help navigating through some tricky situations. Also makes the teachers aware that they may be struggling.
- Bounce Back programme.
- Wellbeing at School data.
- Leadership developing at better understanding of Staff wellbeing and what it means, and what things can be put in place to enhance staff wellbeing - this is a work in progress.

Strategic Goal 2

Advance our Teaching and Learning Strategies for continued growth of our School Community.

Term 4

- Teacher Only Day completed 14.11.2024
- The Government has placed emphasis and financial resource in the Structured Literacy and Maths area moving forward. Our school has our three junior teachers Structured literacy trained and will be sending our three senior teachers for training early 2025. We have made the decision to move our Maths programme to the Oxford University Press resource as our base. This is funded by the MOE. The revised English and Maths curriculums have just been released and we will be reflecting these in our teaching/learning and in our documentation.

2024 Summary

Key Successes

- Teachers and Support Staff have attended a variety of PLD opportunities over the past 12 months. This includes Structured Literacy, RTLB led workshops (3), Teacher Only Days, ESOL, national Kāhui Ako conference, Swimming Pool management/maintenance, AI and Beginning teacher session.
- Teacher Only Days - getting the staff of the schools together in Term 2 was a success.
- All chromebooks have been rolled out to Rooms 3-5. An ICT agreement had to be signed by the student and their parent before they have access. DR went through with the classes the the procedure for turning on/off etc. Each child has been allocated their own Chromebook for the year.
- Our move to inhouse Kapahaka sessions - thank-you to FP for leading this.

Strategic Goal 3

Establish programmes that provide students with a variety of opportunities and experiences by the end of 2023.

Term 4

- Positive engagement with our Filipino families - new Board member and two Filipino parents on year 6 camp.
- Positive feedback from the Kapahaka presentation at EC late term 3 with the other Kāhui Ako members.
- As we move through Term 4 there are a number of events for students in Year 6 to help with their transition to their news schools - school visit, Year 6 conference.
- School Athletics - staff felt there a great turn out of parents and caregivers to both senior and junior events this year.

2024 Summary

Key Successes

- Our Friday Assembly programme has continued in term 2 with about 40-50 parents and friends of our school attending each Assembly.
- School Picnic in Term 1
- We had 25 Dad's at our Annual Dad's Breakfast on 17 May. Brian Thompson was our guest speaker.
- We have two teams entered in the Primary Schools Basketball competition. We are fortunate to have Kieran Stone taking practice sessions with our players on Tuesdays at lunchtime (T2/3)
- Parent Teacher Interviews were held on 11 and 12 March. There were a total of 88 meeting held out of a possible 108 - 81.4%.
- Kaha Award Partnership - we will continue to engage with the local Fire and Emergency group for this work.
- There is good engagement with Facebook posts that include photos of our events.
- 56 students opting into our Kapahaka group.
- Country Day 2024
- Having Dudley at school in Terms 2 and 3
- We have continued our involvement in the Kāhui Ako programme.

Are we on Track?

The 2024 school is almost completed as I write this and reflect on what we have achieved with our Strategic Plan initiatives. Our wellbeing work with our students is well embedded and is an important part of who we are as a school. The challenge for me is to strengthen/improve how we look at and emphasize staff wellbeing. Our goal around curriculum has faced some challenges as the government has mandated change in the Literacy and Maths areas as part of their education policy. It was a positive move to have all students in Rooms 3-5 issued with a Chromebook. We have engaged with positivity in our Kāhui Ako and we continue to provide connect opportunities for our community.

I wish to thank and acknowledge everyone who has played a role in the Strategic Plan work we have done over the 12 months - I appreciate your work, time and dedication to our school and students

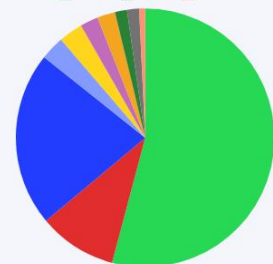
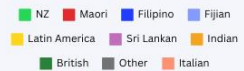
D Robinson
Principal/Tumuaki/Punong-guro

Student Roll

As at 18.11.24

Roll = 133

Ethnicity Breakdown



Student Attendance

2024 Term 4 up to 18.11.2024

Attendance Rate 91.8%; Justified Absence 5.8%
Unjustified Absence 2.4%

Truancy Service Referrals in T4 - 0

2024 YTD (up to 18.11.2024)

Attendance rate for 2024 90.5%; Justified Absence

6.0% Unjustified Absence 3.5%

Truancy Service Referrals in 2024 - 1

.....

From MOE Report

Student Attendance Term 3 2024

Dunsandel School Term 3 2024 - Regular Attendance Rate 69% (attended school more than 90% of the time) National Average for all schools tba

Percentage of Absence by reason at Dunsandel School
Illness 58% Unknown (temporary) 17%

Holiday 12%, Other Justified 6% Accepted but unjustified 7%



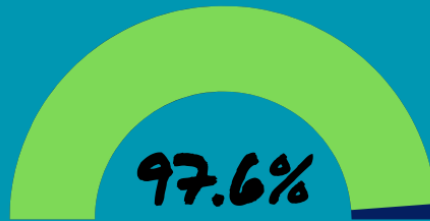
Reading, Writing and Maths Achievement

Summary 2024

SCHOOLWIDE READING



of our students are Meeting or Exceeding Expectations in Reading.



of our students show Excellent effort when doing their Reading in class

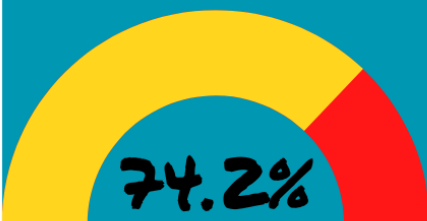
92.3%

OF STUDENTS WHO IDENTIFY AS MAORI ARE MEETING OR EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS IN MATHS

97.6%

OF ALL STUDENTS HAVE BEEN JUDGED AS SHOWING EXCELLENT EFFORT IN READING

SCHOOLWIDE WRITING



of our students are Meeting or Exceeding Expectations in Writing.



of our students show Excellent effort when doing their Writing in class

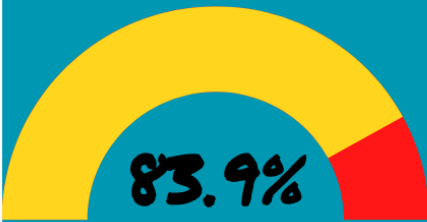
74.2%

OF ALL STUDENTS ARE MEETING OR EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS IN WRITING

85%

OF YEAR 5 STUDENTS ARE MEETING OR EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS IN MATHS

SCHOOLWIDE MATHS



of our students are Meeting or Exceeding Expectations in Maths



of our students show Excellent effort when doing their Maths in class

96%

OF ALL STUDENTS HAVE BEEN JUDGED AS SHOWING EXCELLENT EFFORT IN MATHS

88%

of Year 2 students are meeting or exceeding expectations in Writing.

87%

OF YEAR 4 STUDENTS ARE MEETING OR EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS IN MATHS

87%

OF OUR GIRLS ARE MEETING OR EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS IN MATHS

82%

OF YEAR 0/1 STUDENTS ARE MEETING OR EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS IN READING

94%

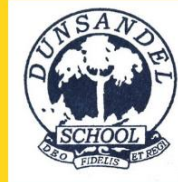
of Year 5 students are meeting or exceeding expectations in Reading





2024

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